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COX LOOKS AHEAD TO LEOFRIC'S 6-YEAR-OLD CAMPAIGN FOLLOWING GUTSY GRADE I CLARK VICTORY

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Saturday, Nov. 24, 2018) – With **Leofric's** indomitable victory in Friday's \$500,000 Clark Handicap Presented by Norton Healthcare (Grade I), trainer **Brad Cox** is looking ahead to 2019 for a 6-year-old campaign that includes several options, including the \$9 million Pegasus World Cup Invitational (GI) at Gulfstream Park on Jan. 26.

"The Pegasus is an option that we'll keep on the table," Cox said. "This horse developed so much over the summer and has really come into his own. We'll also look at the (Grade II, \$750,000) Oaklawn Handicap (on April 13) as a long-range target as well."

The lofty \$300,700 first prize in the Clark lifted the gray or roan Kentucky-bred's earnings to near-millionaire status: \$951,040 from a record of 8-1-3 in 14 starts. The win also vaulted Cox above \$14 million in purse earnings for 2018 – nearly \$6 million more than his career-best in 2017.

Owned by **Steve Landers Racing**, this was the first Grade I win and third graded stakes victory of the year for **Leofric**. In addition to winning the Fayette, he scored in the \$200,000 West Virginia Governor's Stakes (GIII) at Mountaineer in August. After the latter, **Leofric** finished third behind **Yoshida (JPN)** and **Gunnvera** in the \$750,000 Woodward (GI) at Saratoga.

"It's been a great year with **Monomoy Girl** and now this win is very special to us," Cox said. "He's doing well this morning. It was a really good day yesterday."

With five weeks to go in 2018, Cox is ranked fourth nationally with 223 wins through 840 starters and fifth in purse earnings with \$14,315,854.

Cox recently celebrated his 1,000th career win when **Play On** won a maiden special weight at Fair Grounds on Sunday. The 38-year-old conditioner is third in the Fall Meet standings at Churchill Downs with seven wins.

FALL MEET LEADERS COMING DOWN TO THE WIRE – When Saturday's 12-race card began, there was a three-way scramble atop the rider standings between **Tyler Gaffalione**, **Corey Lanerie**, and **Edgar Morales** with 18 wins while **Brian Hernandez Jr.** tracked in fourth with 17 wins.

Gaffalione, a 24-year-old Florida native, won four races on Friday's program to vault back into contention for leading rider honors. The 2015 Champion Apprentice Jockey arrived for his first full-time stay in Kentucky during Keeneland's Fall Meet and continued onto Churchill Downs.

"I really like it here in Kentucky," Gaffalione said. "Hopefully this can be a permanent move for the Spring and Fall."

Lanerie, a 44-year-old Louisiana-native, has won 16 of the last 19 meets at Churchill Downs including the last six Fall Meets.

Meanwhile, Morales, a 20-year-old from Puerto Rico, recorded 16 of his 18 wins when he still had a five-pound weight allowance for apprentice riders. Since Morales graduated from the apprenticeship ranks last Saturday, he's had only one victory through 21 starts.

Hernandez scored a double on Friday's card to put him back in contention for leading rider honors. The 33-year-old won his first Churchill Downs riding title at this year's Spring Meet.

In the trainer standings, **Dallas Stewart** is hoping to score his first leading trainer honors at Churchill Downs with a 11-9 win lead over Hall of Famer **Steve Asmussen**. Stewart had eight entries on Saturday and Sunday while Asmussen had 15.

Ron Paolucci's Looch Racing Stables moved ahead of **G M B Racing** 5-4 in the trainer standings with a victory by **Karma Delight** in Race 3 Friday. **Calumet Farms**, **G. Watts Humphrey Jr.** and **Juddmonte Farms** are tied for third with three wins each.

CHURCHILL DOWNS, FAIR GROUNDS TO OFFER 'FLEUR DE LIS' PICK 4 SATURDAY – Churchill Downs Racetrack and Fair Grounds Race Course & Slots have teamed to offer horseplayers a cross-track Pick 4 on Saturday.

Billed as the "**Fleur de Lis Pick 4**," bettors will be required to pick the winners of four races late Saturday afternoon: two races at Fair Grounds in New Orleans, La. and two stakes events at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky. – the \$200,000 Golden Rod (Grade II) for 2-year-old fillies and \$200,000 Kentucky Jockey Club (GII) for 2-year-olds.

The minimum wager on the Fleur de Lis Pick 4 is 50 cents.

Here's the sequence for the inaugural Fleur de Lis Pick 4, which features 40 entries (plus two also-eligibles):

- Leg 1: Fair Grounds Race 7 (4:35 p.m. ET)
- Leg 2: Churchill Downs Race 9 (4:57 p.m. ET)
- Leg 3: Fair Grounds Race 9 (5:35 p.m. ET)
- Leg 4: Churchill Downs Race 11 (5:56 p.m. ET)

The series starts at 4:35 p.m. ET with a \$41,000 maiden special weight over one mile and 70 yards at Fair Grounds that attracted nine 2-year-olds. The second leg is the 1 1/16-mile Golden Rod, which drew eight entries led by Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies runner-up Restless Rider. Third in the order is a competitive third-level allowance/optional claiming race at Fair Grounds over 1 1/16 miles on the Stall Turf Course with nine older horses. The fourth and final leg of the sequence at 5:56 p.m. ET is the challenging 1 1/16-mile Kentucky Jockey Club, which lured 16 entries in the maximum field of 14 including Breeders' Cup Juvenile runner-up **Knicks Go**.

Fair Grounds will serve as host of the Fleur de Lis Pick 4.

The Fleur de Lis is a symbol that is deeply ingrained in the history of both Louisville and New Orleans and has traditionally been used to represent French royalty. The English translation for the French "fleur-de-lis" is flower of the lily.

BIG SINGLE 6 AND LATE PICK 5 CARRYOVERS TO TACKLE SATURDAY – Racing resumes Saturday at Churchill Downs with a 12-race program that begins at 1 p.m. (all times Eastern). The 92nd running of the \$200,000 Kentucky Jockey Club (GII) – a "Prep Season" race on the Road to the Kentucky Derby – and the 75th running of the \$200,000 Golden Rod (GII) for fillies are the headliners on the second-to-last day of Churchill Downs' 21-date Fall Meet. Billed as "Stars of Tomorrow II," each of the 12 races is exclusively for 2-year-olds that may have aspirations of trail-blazing their way to next spring's Kentucky Derby Presented by Woodford Reserve and Longines Kentucky Oaks.

There is a massive \$317,738 carryover in the 20-cent Single 6 Jackpot to chase on Races 7-12 after **Kentucky Horse Racing Commission** stewards made a double disqualification in Friday's finale. If the result stood with **Presidential Tweet** crossing the wire first, the full jackpot would have been paid. Instead, both President Tweet and runner-up **New Colossus** were disqualified for interference in deep stretch and third-place finisher **Laser Loop** was promoted to first, which triggered the massive full carryover.

If the jackpot is not hit by a single winning combination on Saturday, there would be an enormous mandatory payout on Sunday's 12-race finale.

Also, there is a \$49,200 carryover in Saturday's late Pick 5 on Races 8-12 because Friday's middle Pick 5 was not hit.

BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE CHAMP GAME WINNER CONTINUES AS 6-1 INDIVIDUAL FAVORITE IN FIRST DERBY FUTURE WAGER; POPULAR 'ALL OTHERS' OVERALL 6-5 FAVORITE – Through the first two days of wagering on Pool 1 of the Kentucky Derby Future Wager, the popular "**All Other 3-Year-Olds**" option continued as the heavy 6-5 favorite over second choice **Game Winner** at 6-1.

The pool, which features \$2 Win and Exacta wagering, will close Sunday at 6 p.m. ET.

Other horses taking early action include impressive maiden special weight winner No. 3 **Coliseum** (9-1), Best Pal winner No. 9 **Instagrand** (10-1) and Street Sense Stakes winner No. 8 **Improbable** (16-1).

Pool 1 past performances courtesy of Brisnet: <http://www.brisnet.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Derby19Future1.pdf>.

The Kentucky Derby Future Wager is being offered concurrently with the fourth annual Kentucky Derby Sire Future Wager, which provides bettors with a unique opportunity to wager on select breeding stars and their entire crop of juveniles with the hope of winning next year's Kentucky Derby.

"**All Other Sires**" continued to hold favoritism on Friday at 4-1 over offspring sired by **Candy Ride (ARG)** at odds of 5-1.

Last year, **Justify** was unraced at the time of the first Future Wagers and paid \$4.40 to win the Derby as part of the "All Other 3-Year-olds" pari-mutuel field. However, a bet on his sire Scat Daddy returned \$54.80 at odds of 26-1 in the Kentucky Derby Sire Future Wager.

Sire Future Wager past performances courtesy of Brisnet: <http://www.brisnet.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/DerbyFuture19SirePPs.pdf>.

Dates for the remaining 2019 Kentucky Derby and Kentucky Oaks future pools are Feb. 8-10 (Pool 2), March 8-10 (Pool 3) and April 5-7 (Pool 4). The lone Kentucky Oaks Future Wager will coincide with Pool 3 of the Kentucky Derby Future Wager on March 8-10.

Wagering on both pools is available on track as well as TwinSpires.com and other simulcast outlets throughout the country. For more information visit: <https://www.kentuckyderby.com/wager/future-wager>.

FILLY MAKE HAPPY WINS FIRST RACE IN 'JAPAN ROAD TO THE KENTUCKY DERBY' – California-bred filly **Make Happy** remained perfect from two starts when bossing the boys in Saturday's Cattleys Sho at Tokyo, the first scoring race on the Japan Road to the Kentucky Derby. Sent off as the heavy 2-5 favorite, the **Kazuko Yoshida** colorbearer prevailed by 2 ½ lengths from **Godolphin's Kingen**.

Make Happy was bred by **Reddam Racing**, best known for campaigning Kentucky Derby (GI) heroes **I'll Have Another** (2012) and **Nyquist** (2016). **J. Paul Reddam** also owned Make Happy's sire, Square Eddie, who was on the 2009 Derby trail before injury intervened.

Sold for \$650,000 as a 2-year-old in training at Fasig-Tipton's Gulfstream Sale in March, Make Happy romped by 10 lengths in her Oct. 7 debut at Tokyo. That made the **Koichi Shinkai** trainee the odds-on choice in the Cattleys Sho, held over the same track and metric mile trip.

Make Happy broke beautifully from the far outside post 14, and regular rider **Christophe Lemaire** eased her a few lengths back as Kentucky-bred **Evacuant** set the pace. The stalking **Johann** was the first to pounce in the stretch, but Make Happy emphatically asserted her authority.

By finishing the metric mile in 1:38.3, Make Happy earned 10 points on the Japan Road leaderboard. Kingen rallied from farther back in the pack, taking home 4 points as the runner-up. Johann scored 2 points in third, and **Romantico** got on the board with 1 point for fourth. Kentucky-bred **Washington Tesoro** underperformed in 10th, and early leader Evacuant faded to 12th of 14.

Make Happy is a full sister to a pair of notable Reddam runners, 2015 Hopeful (GI) winner **Ralis** and multiple stakes scorer and Grade III-placed **B Squared**, most recently sixth in the Nov. 3 Breeders' Cup Sprint (GI) at Churchill Downs. Their dam, Silar Rules, is herself the daughter of Ten Most Wanted and Grade III victress **Morning Meadow**.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR ODANIS ACUNA SET FOR SUNDAY – There will be a visitation and memorial service on Sunday from 3-6 p.m. in the Churchill Downs Chapel for exercise rider **Odanis Acuna**, who was tragically killed two weeks ago during a morning training accident.

Guests are to enter the Stable Gate off of 4th St. and proceed to the Chapel.

A Go Fund Me page was set up by trainer **Kenny McPeck** to help Acuna's family in Cuba. To donate and for more information, visit: <https://bit.ly/2zIXK8m>

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